

RICHMOND 16-19 COMPETITION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

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The outcome of the Richmond 16-19 Competition has been announced by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) in London South, following a council meeting which took place on 13 March 2007.

The proposal submitted by The Richmond 14-19 Partnership of Secondary Schools, Richmond upon Thames College and Hawk Training will be taken forward subject to some agreed revisions. This means that 430 additional 16-19 year olds across the borough will have access to new provision.

Vic Grimes, LSC Area Director for London South said, "The Richmond 14-19 Partnership's proposal offers a real opportunity to improve and develop the breadth of provision in Richmond upon Thames. The LSC is looking forward to working with the Partnership and local authority to develop its proposal into an exciting new offer for all young people across the Borough."

Positive features endorsed by the Council include: a new fully equipped Diploma Centre; a focus on vocational provision at all three levels from entry level to advanced level and an opportunity for Richmond schools, the College and Hawk Training to work together to provide a wide range of innovative learning opportunities for young people in Richmond upon Thames. The LSC has asked that the partnership work with other local providers, including Esher College.

The proposal will require substantial development to address a number of concerns, including governance and management for the partnership, developing a robust quality

assurance framework for the new provision and identifying where the Diploma Centre will be located. London South LSC will work with the Partnership and the local authority to develop these aspects to ensure that the new provision meets the needs of all learners in Richmond.

Ends

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Notes to Editors:

LSC

- The Learning and Skills Council exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.
- Competitions for new 16-19 provision are held where a need is identified for 200 or more new 16-19 places to meet basic need, to improve quality and/or improve the balance of provision in an area, where there is no proposal to meet that need under the sixth form 'presumption' arrangements or from an academy. In the case of Richmond upon Thames, London South LSC is responding to GLA projections of 430 more 16-18 year olds in the Borough to 2012 and government expectations that post 16 participation will rise to 90% by 2010.
- London South LSC established the need for new 16-19 provision in Richmond based on the outcomes of Strategic Area Review (StAR), inspection results, provider annual reviews as well as our on-going work on borough profiles.
- The London South LSC held an LSC 16-19 Competition during 2006-07 and the competition was conducted in accord with the stages set out in the National LSC document 'Guidance for 16-19 Competitions' (December 2005). London South LSC received one proposal from the The Richmond 14-19 Partnership of secondary schools, Richmond upon Thames College and Hawk Training Ltd.
- The proposal was considered by an independent Stakeholder Panel on 27 February 2007 and the Stakeholder Panel's main findings and recommendations were considered by London South LSC on 13th March 2007.
- Further information and relevant documents can be found on the following website www.lsc london.gov.uk